

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 00753 190520Z
ACTION SS-25

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-----190909Z 090682 /15

R 190425Z JAN 77
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3455
INFO USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 00753

EXDIS

NOFORN

EO 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PFOR, CH, US
SUBJECT: FEI I-MIN COMMENTS ON ACCELERATING RELATIONS

REFS: A) HONG KONG 00744; B) HONG KONG 00745

1. AS A LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF PRC INTERNAL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS WAS DRAWING TO A CLOSE (REFTELS) AND CONGENOFFS WERE PREPARING TO LEAVE, TA KUNG PAO PUBLISHER FEI I-MIN REMARKED THAT THERE WERE TWO MAJOR AREAS ON WHICH CHINA MUST NOW CONCENTRATE. THE FIRST WAS ROOTING OUT THE PERNICIOUS INFLUENCE OF THE "GANG OF FOUR", AND THE SECOND WAS THE ACCELERATION OF CHINA'S DEVELOPMENT. EXPANDING ON THE LATTER, FEI SAID THE PRC MUST SPEED UP DEVELOPMENT IN INDUSTRY, SCIENCE, EDUCATION "AND EVEN DIPLOMACY".

2. WARMING TO THE SUBJECT, FEI POINTEDLY SAID THAT AN EXCELLENT BEGINNING HAD BEEN MADE IN 1972 WITH THE VISITS OF NIXON AND TANAKA, BUT THE "GANG OF FOUR" HAD INTERFERRED IN EVERYTHING AND HAD DISRUPTED PROGRESS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHINA-'S DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. CLAIMING THAT A YEAR AND A HALF OF PROGRESS HAD BEEN LOST AS A RESULT, FEI SAID
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THAT IT WAS NOW TIME TO RESUME THE PROGRESS THAT HAD BEEN MADE.

3. COMMENT: FEI I-MIN RARELY COMMENTS ON BILATERAL U.S.-PRC RELATIONS AND CONGENOFFS HAVE ALSO CAREFULLY AVOIDED RAISING THE QUESTION TO PREVENT ANY MISUNDERSTANDING. IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER HE TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN RAISING THE SUBJECT,

SUGGESTING HE WANTED TO CONVEY THE MESSAGE THAT THE REMOVAL
OF THE "GANG OF FOUR" ALSO HAD IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PACE OF
U.S.-PRC RELATIONS. MESSAGE IS NOT UNIQUE TO FEI AMONG PRC
CADRE HERE BUT IS INTERESTING NEVERTHELESS.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

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